

[13th November 1922]

(b) whether any exchange has been granted or any provision made elsewhere for the grazing of the cattle of the villagers of the said village?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA :—“ Will the Government be pleased to call for the information ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I want notice of this question.”

High school at Russellkonda.

438 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government meets the whole net cost of the upkeep and maintenance of the high school at Russellkonda (Ganjam), under the management of the district board;

(b) whether it is a fact that it was originally contemplated to run it as one of the model Government high schools; if so, to state what led to the abandonment of the proposal; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table all papers connected with the establishment of and the grant of subsidy to the said high school?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The board secondary school, Russellkonda, was not one of the institutions which the Government proposed to take under their management in the model high school scheme.

(c) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to papers relating to the development of the school from an incomplete secondary into a complete secondary one and to the papers wherein the Government undertook to bear the net cost of the school. The connected papers are placed on the table.*

Transport for the Agency officers.

439 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioners of the Agency division are provided with elephants; if so, how many each;

(2) whether these officers are allowed to use Government elephants to carry their private luggage;

(3) if so, whether any sum is charged for such luggage and at what rate;

(4) whether the rate, if any, is adequate to meet the proportionate cost of the upkeep of these elephants;

(5) whether it is proposed to replace elephants by mule transport;

(6) what the approximate cost is of each kind of transport; and

(7) whether those officers who are provided with elephants are required to maintain horses?

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A.—(1) During 1921-22 the Agency Commissioner had no elephants and the Agency Divisional Officers had 15 in all as shown below :—

Divisional Officer, Khond ..	..	..	..	4
Do. Savara ..	..	..	..	2
Do. Oriya ..	..	..	..	3
Do. Ghats ..	..	..	..	2
Do. Rampa ..	..	..	..	2
Do. Koya ..	..	..	..	2
Total ..				15

(2) & (3) Yes, subject to payment of eight annas a day for each elephant on days on which it is actually used.

(4) No.

(5) A combination of elephants and mules has been proposed as providing the most efficient means of transport.

(6) Six mules are able to carry as much as one elephant, and on this basis the details of cost are as below :—

	Six mules.	One elephant.
	RS.	RS.
(a) Capital cost	1,500	3,500
(b) Upkeep including wages for drivers, etc., per mensem ..	180	120
(c) Harness (average for one year) ..	78	100

An elephant's average working life is estimated at thirty years and that of mules at ten years.

(7) The elephants being intended only for conveyance of furniture, tents or luggage, the Divisional Officers are not exempt from the liability of maintaining the prescribed means of locomotion, viz., a horse or a motor-car or a motor-cycle.

District board railway in Ganjam.

440 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Board, Ganjam, applied to Government for a loan with a view to construct a railway line from Gopalpur to Russelkonda ;

(b) if so, what was the amount of loan applied for and under what conditions ;

(c) whether the Government expressed inability to sanction the loan and, if so, the circumstances that led to that decision ;

(d) whether it is a fact that money realized by levy of railway cess and earmarked for construction of a railway is now sought to be utilized by the district board for general purposes ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Zamindars' Association, Ganjam, protested against such utilization ;

(f) how much of the earmarked funds accumulated up to now has been contributed by (1) each of the zamindars and landed proprietors of the district, and (2) by the ryots living in the proprietary estates ; and

(g) whether the Government have passed any orders on the subject ; and, if so, to place the said orders on the table ?